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Application No.: 10/712361Case No.: 59387US002

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**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

1.-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 A method of making a crosslinked polymer comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a highly fluorinated fluoropolymer comprising pendent groups which include a group according to the formula -S02X, where X is F, Cl, Br, OH or O-M+, where M+ is a monovalent cation;
- b) forming said fluoropolymer into a membrane; and
- c) exposing said fluoropolymer to electron beam radiation so as to result in the formation of crosslinks;

wherein step c) b) comprises imbibing said fluoropolymer into a porous supporting matrix.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 18 wherein said porous supporting matrix is a porous polytetrafluoroethylene web.

20.-38. (Canceled)